

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 02951 141028Z  
ACTION EUR-12

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PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SSC-01 /041 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1073

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 2951

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PDIP, SW  
SUBJECT: PRESS ARTICLE ON APPOINTMENT OF NEW US AMBASSADOR TO  
SWEDEN

1. INDEPENDENT DAGENS NYHETER ON JULY 14 CARRIED AN ARTICLE,  
WRITTEN BY REPORTER KAA ENEBERG, DISCUSSING THE APPOINTMENT  
OF THE NEW US AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN. A TRANSLATION OF THE  
FULL ARTICLE FOLLOWS BELOW.

2. "NEW USA-AMBASSADOR - CARTER'S FRIEND TO SWEDEN.

"IT IS NOW RATHER CLEAR THAT PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER'S  
MAN IN STOCKHOLM WILL BE 49-YEAR-OLD HISTORY PROFESSOR  
RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT. THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS SOUGHT  
SO-CALLED AGREEMENT FOR ITS NEW AMBASSADOR WHO HAS MANAGED  
HIS WAY THROUGH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S FIRST EYE OF  
THE NEEDLE, THE FBI CHECK OF HIS PRIVATE CIRCUMSTANCES,  
ABILITY, ETC. WHEN RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT WILL ASSUME HIS  
POST IS UNCLEAR. WHEN THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN ITS  
APPROVAL, WHICH IS ONLY A FORMALITY, HE WILL BE SUBJECTED  
TO A 'GRILLING' BY THE AMERICAN CONGRESS' FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE. IN KENNEDY-MINOTT'S CASE, THAT HEARING  
IS ALSO REGARDED AS A SIMPLE FORMALITY SINCE HE IS  
AN OLD RELIABLE DEMOCRAT AND A GOOD FRIEND OF  
JIMMY CARTER.

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"THE LONG WAIT

"RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT, TOGETHER WITH TENS OF OTHER  
NEW AMBASSADORS, HAS HAD TO WAIT AN UNUSUALLY LONG TIME FOR  
HIS APPOINTMENT. THE FIRST TIME KENNEDY-MINOTT'S NAME  
WAS MENTIONED AMONG AMBASSADORIAL CANDIDATES WAS IN

APRIL. THE REASON FOR THE DELAY IS THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN MORE CAREFUL THAN EARLIER GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT DIPLOMATS REALLY 'HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE,' THAT NO SO-CALLED CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ARE FOUND IN THE PICTURE. ANOTHER REASON FOR THE DELAY PROBABLY IS PURE HESITATION FROM THE ADMINISTRATION'S SIDE BECAUSE OF THE CRITICISM TO WHICH JIMMY CARTER HAS BEEN SUBJECTED BECAUSE OF SO-CALLED POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS. THE PRESIDENT PROMISED EARLIER NOT TO CONTINUE THE OLD AMERICAN TRADITION WITH POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS AND INSTEAD TO NAME MORE CAREER MEN. RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT IS A TYPICAL POLITICAL APPOINTMENT. HE IS A SECURE DEMOCRAT AND JIMMY CARTER OWES HIM A CLEAR DEBT OF THANKS. HE IS AMONG THE FIRST WHO BACKED THE UNKNOWN PEANUT GROWER FROM GEORGIA. HE HAS NO EXPERIENCE AS A DIPLOMAT. HE HAS BEEN A HISTORY PROFESSOR FOR ABOUT TEN YEARS AT HAYWARD COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY. HE HAS FUNCTIONED AS CARTER'S CAMPAIGN LEADER IN HIS HOMESTATE OF CALIFORNIA."

PERRY

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Subject:** PRESS ARTICLE ON APPOINTMENT OF NEW US AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN  
**TAGS:** PDIP, SOPN, SW, US, DOGENS NYHETER, (KENNEDY-MINOT, RODNEY)  
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